NOSTALGIA

The final resting place for a jilted lover and Indian PM hitches a ride

MIKE PETTY AND JAMES MILNER LOOK THROUGH THE CAMBRIDGE NEWS ARCHIVES AT SOME OF THE STORIES FROM THIS DAY IN THE PAST

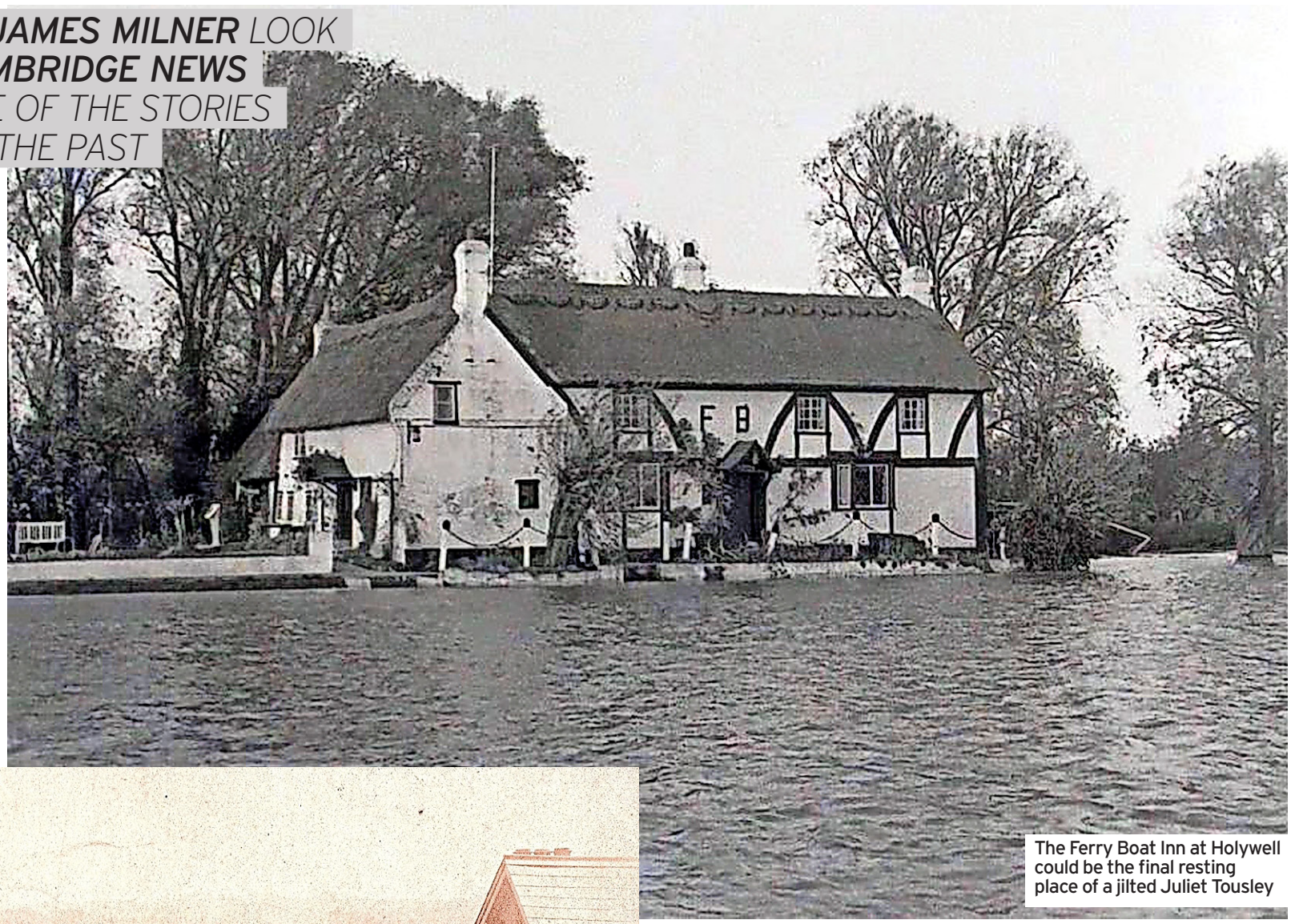
Does jilted Juliet lie below Ferry Boat Inn? – 1954

IT is possible that the bar floor of the Ferry Boat Inn at Holywell may be raised to find out whether a skeleton lies under it or not.

Mr A.L. Cornell of the society for psychic research wants to prove that he has had a conversation with a spirit who told him she was buried in a spot only a foot or so away from where the piano now stands in the bar.

The alleged ghost is Juliet Tousley who makes an annual visit to the inn every March 17, the day when, in 1050, she committed suicide because she was jilted.

She is said to be 'perfectly happy' to be buried in the pub and has no wish to be moved to consecrated ground.



The Ferry Boat Inn at Holywell could be the final resting place of a jilted Juliet Tousley

Charles Howard worked at Haddenham station for 39 years until his retirement

Recollections of a retiring railwayman – 1926

CHARLES Howard spent 39 years of his service with the Great Eastern Railway Company at Haddenham.

Marvellous changes have taken place on the railway since he joined as a clerk at Godmanchester in 1875.

"When I came to Haddenham in 1887," he said, "the platform was only about two bricks high. I had that altered so that people could conveniently step into the carriages, as they would be able to do at any other station.

"Before that was done, we used to have to keep a pair of steps to enable elderly people to climb into the carriages. Younger people could, of course, do without the steps.

"In those days, we had a brick siding to cope with the tremendous brick trade which was done by Mr Jewson's firm."

He touched on the development of the fruit growing industry and said that, in those days, the gooseberry was the principal fruit grown. Now people went in for growing all kinds of fruit and large quantities were dispatched by rail.

Prior to Mr Howard, there had only been one other station master, Mr Jacobs, who was there for 21 years.

When, four years ago, there was an amalgamation of the railways,

Mr Howard was given control of the stations at Stretham and Wilburton as well as that of Haddenham, and to mark their appreciation, the staffs of the three stations presented him with a beautiful clock on his retirement.

He intends to spend the rest of his days in a beautifully situated house which they have had erected on the Aldreth Road named 'Herewake.'

The house stands well back from the road, and is fronted with an excellent bowling green.